



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
NICOLE PARRA

Representing the 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

November 18, 2005

Hello Friends:

It's been a sad couple days in the Valley as we have lost two lives that meant so much to those we know and love in the community. As many of you might know, **Hanford Hand in Hand Community Director Judy Horn** lost her daughter **Debra Horn** to stage 3 Inflammatory **Breast Cancer** last week. Debra was diagnosed just six months ago. She leaves behind a five year old son. The Horn family has asked that in lieu of flowers that donations be made to the **Brennan Horn Trust Fund** at any **Bank of America**.

Last week we also lost **Richard "Rick" M. Pizana**, a correctional officer at the **Avenal State Prison** where he served on the **Special Emergency Response Team (SERT)**. He was a member of the **Corrections Police Officers Association**, the **Chicano Correctional Workers Association**, and the **Crime Victims Coalition**. Rick grew up in **Huron** and attended **Coalinga High School** where he graduated in 1981. He leaves behind a fiancée, three children and a grandson. My deepest regrets and prayers are with the families and friends of these amazing individuals.

I hope you all had a good **Veterans Day** last Friday. I began my holiday in **Bakersfield** where I attended a special **prayer event** at the **Liberty Bell** in honor of our veterans. In attendance were local leaders and about **40 Valley veterans**. The resounding feeling I had after the event is the obligation we all have to ensure that our veterans are taking care of during and after war time. After the prayer event, I took part in the **Kern County Veteran's Parade**. This annual parade is held to honor and remember the sacrifices our servicemen and women. This year's theme was "**Celebrating the Red, White and Blue**." I had an amazing time, especially since I was accompanied by a very energetic **Girl Scout Troop 101** from the **Joshua Tree Council**.

On Saturday, I attended the **Sikh Cultural Festival** in **Bakersfield**. During the event I spoke in honor of the **536th Anniversary** of the founding of the **Sikh** religion by **Guru Nanak Dev Ji**. I was informed that Guru Nanak preached a universal message of "Ek Onkar," meaning we are all one, created by the one creator of all creation.

On Thursday, I hosted an **Asset Policy Briefing** in **Bakersfield** with local community leaders and representatives from the **Asset Policy Initiative of California (APIC)**. According to the **Local Asset Poverty Index**, a recent study released by **APIC**, an estimated one-third of Kern County

families is living in asset poverty - defined as being unable to make ends meet at the federal poverty level for three months following a disruption of income. Within the next coming months, I will be working with community leaders to explore ways in which we can help address this issue.

In the afternoon, I headed over to **McFarland** where I attended the **Lions Club** meeting. I had an amazing time meeting with everyone especially with **Lions Club** President **Albert Melendez** and **David Borcky**, who as always were more than gracious to me.

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY *SAVE THE DATE*

The next **Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley** meeting will be held on **December 8th and 9th** at the **University of California, Merced**. As soon as more details are made available I'll be sure to pass them along.

To learn more about the Partnership visit the Business, Transportation and Housing website by going to www.bth.ca.gov and click on "California Partnership for the Central Valley."

RICHGROVE TOWNHALL *SAVE THE DATE*

On **November 29th** from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, I will be hosting a town hall at the Richgrove Junior High School Gymnasium located at 20812 Grove Drive. I encourage you all to attend as we will be discussing public safety issues of importance to the community. So please be sure to stop by and share your opinion.

For more information on this event, please be sure to contact Juan Cerda at my Bakersfield district office by calling (661)334-3745 or by e-mail at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov .

NEED HOMEWORK HELP?

The California State Library has made available through their website a new service called **Live Homework Help**. This service enables students to connect on-line with a tutor for assistance with homework questions. Supported by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) federal funding, students can access Live Homework Help through [28 California public libraries](#). It is important to note that the tutors who respond to student questions are screened, trained, and closely monitored.

Live Homework Help is easy! Log on to <http://www.library.ca.gov/tutor/> from your computer any time between **1:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.** and follow the simple setup instructions.

I WANT YOUR IDEAS!!

It's that time of year again when legislators start brainstorming for legislative ideas they can introduce as Assembly bills in February and eventually turn into law. As a result, I've been busy meeting with various groups and individuals throughout my district to determine what issues in the Valley can best be addressed with new legislation. If you have any ideas for new laws please e-mail me at Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov . Make sure to include the words "New Legislation" on the subject line.

EVENTS

During our legislative break, I will be attending several meetings and events throughout the district. Below you will find just a few of the public events that I am scheduled to attend for the remainder of November.

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend

an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my Executive Secretary Ellen Manolis at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Ellen.Manolis@asm.ca.gov .

November (Tentative)

- **Bakersfield Leadership Program Conference** – November 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Bakersfield
- **Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California Annual Legislative Reception** – November 18th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Visalia.
- **Wasco Rotary Club Meeting** – November 21st from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Wasco
- **Hanford Christmas Parade** – November 25th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Hanford
- **Arvin High School Constitution Team Study Session**- November 28th from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Arvin.

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the fall internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley. Applications can be found by going to:

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Matt Rogers** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Matt.Rogers@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Manuel Barrera** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov.

For Sacramento office internships contact **Michael Tamariz** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at Michael.Tamariz@asm.ca.gov .

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Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

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